



Dear Massachusetts Victim Service Provider:

Enclosed please find the application for the ninth **Annual Massachusetts Victim Assistance Academy (MVAA)** that will take place from **Sunday July 26, 2015 – Friday, July 31, 2015**. The MVAA is conducted by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) in partnership with diverse public and community agencies, colleges and universities. While more than 30 other states have also established State Victim Assistance Academies, the MVAA has been lauded by federal officials as a “model for the nation” because of its first-of-a-kind innovative curriculum. An even greater testament to the success of the MVAA comes from the alumni who have spoken about the profound impact it has had upon them professionally and personally. We encourage you to take advantage of this exciting and unique learning experience by joining us in our seventh year.

This 40 hour, week-long program has been designed to give early career direct victim service providers (less than 5 years) an in-depth understanding of crime victims’ experiences across time and systems. Individuals from a wide variety of professional disciplines come in contact with crime victims every day (e.g. medical, legal, mental health, media, clergy, etc.). Yet, often, each provider knows little, if anything, about how these other professions and systems impact the victim’s experience. The MVAA training and learning environment helps enrich and broaden the student’s perspective and approach to their work with victims and survivors. It provides a more complete understanding of what victims and survivors often experience and how to best assist them as individual providers and as part of a coordinated network. Our ultimate and shared goal is to ensure that crime victims receive coordinated, comprehensive services of the highest quality.

We have worked hard to make the MVAA both exceptional in quality and affordability. The all-inclusive fee for the 5-day training is \$490, which covers the cost of the comprehensive 40-hour training by expert faculty, resource materials, all day and evening group activities, and room and board at the beautiful Endicott College campus in Beverly. *Please see attached funding tip sheet for options to assist in covering this fee.* **Space is limited to 35 students so we encourage you to apply early.**

For more information, please contact Corinn Nelson, Director of Outreach and Training at MOVA, at Corinn.Nelson@state.ma.us or 617-586-1348. We hope you will join us for this exceptional training opportunity.

Sincerely,

Liam T. Lowney
Executive Director
Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance



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